

intermittent fevers, and also from being attacked by certain epidemics; it also is prophylactic against itch. Is working in a tobacco factory a preservative from phthisis, or does it retard the progress or effect the cure of that disease? M. Melier could not discover any facts that warrant an affirmative answer to those questions, while he knows of some which go to negative them.—*Dub. Med. Press*, May, 1845, from *Gaz. Méd. de Paris*.

### MEDICAL STATISTICS.

87. *Statistics of Tubercles*.—In five hundred *post-mortem* examinations, carefully made by Dr. Cless, of Stuttgart, one hundred and seventy-six were in tubercular subjects, the greatest number of which died with symptoms of phthisis. Very few affected with tubercles died of other diseases. He endeavours to solve the two following questions:—

1st. What influence has age on the development of tubercles?

2d. What connection is there between tubercular affections and mortality in general?

In the subjoined table the sexes are blended together till the age of fifteen. The number of phthisical females is less than that of males; which may depend upon particular circumstances in the hospital, but generally speaking, at Stuttgart, there are more consumptive men than women:

Age	Tubercular.		Non-Tubercular.		Total.		No. of Tubercular subjects in one hundred deaths
	Male	Fem. Tot.	Male	Fem. Tot.	Male	Fem. Tot.	
Under one year		3		47		50	10
One year		3		7		10	
From 2 to 5 years		11		6		17	64
" 6 to 10 "		2		3		5	50
" 10 to 14 "		8		7		15	
" 15 to 19 "	6	1	11	15	17	16	21
" 20 to 24 "	17	6	23	29	40	35	27
" 25 to 29 "	25	4	29	14	29	19	50
" 30 to 34 "	36	6	42	22	41	25	50
" 40 to 49 "	15	4	19	16	26	14	42
" 50 to 59 "	10		10	22	32	14	21
" 60 to 69 "	5	1	6	14	19	14	18
" 70 to 79 "	2	1	3	7	9	6	
" 80 to 90 "	1		2	4	3	4	
	117	23	167	139	124	333	256
					147	500	

The youngest of the three infants under one year, was eighteen weeks old; both lungs, the bronchial glands, and the spleen, were choked up with crude miliary tubercles. The second, aged seven months, besides numerous tubercles, had three large cavernous excavations. In the third, aged eight months, the tubercles, very numerous in both lungs, in the bronchial glands, and spleen, had attained the size of a pin's head, and even of a pea.

This table confirms that which was previously known: that the greatest frequency of tubercles is observed in infancy; in fact, in thirty-seven children, from two to fourteen years, twenty-one were tuberculous, and in sixteen subjects only were no tubercles discovered.

These observations of M. Cless, although having reference merely to a small number, are very important, inasmuch as they have been made in civil practice.

Towards puberty the mortality of tuberculous subjects notably diminishes, again to become greater after this period, and to decrease afresh after 40 years. Subjoined is a comparative table:—

	Cless.	In 100 Deaths from Phthisis.		
		Louis.	Boyle.	Clark.
From 15 to 20 years	5	8	10	9
" 20 to 30 "	37	31	23	28
" 30 to 40 "	30	27	23	24
" 40 to 50 "	14	18	21	18
" 50 to 60 "	7	9	15	10
above 60 "	7	4	8	7

To resolve the second question, M. Cless has taken for his basis the work of Hoffmann, on the mortality in Prussia, from 1820 to 1835. The first column indicates the proportion of individuals in 10,000, who died at different periods of life, not including the still-born; the second indicates the number of individuals

in whom tubercles were discovered; and the third, the proportion in which, according to their ages, one thousand tuberculous persons died:—

	In 10,000 deaths.	Tuberculous.	In 1000 Tuberculous there died
Under 1 year	2494	50 ?	20
From 2 to 14 years	2399	1200	456
“ 15 to 19 “	255	60	23
“ 20 to 29 “	549	200	76
“ 30 to 39 “	565	280	106
“ 40 to 49 “	660	270	103
“ 50 to 59 “	814	170	64
“ 60 to 69 “	1022	400	152
“ 70 to 79 “	843		
“ 80 to 89 “	348		
above 90 “	51		
	10,000	2620	1000

According to this table the number of children who died from tubercles, compared to other children, who died at the same age, is very surprising. At the age of puberty the mortality in general, as that of the tuberculous, was extremely low. It results from the third column that half of the phthisical individuals died before 20 years of age, and out of this number nine-tenths between the age of 3 and 15. We may reckon thirty-five per cent. of deaths between 20 and 60 years of age, of which one-half is above, and the other under 40; and for the remaining period of life fifteen per cent.—*Prov. Med. Journ.*, Feb. 19th, 1845, from *Gazette Méd. de Paris*.

88. *Statistics of Hernia*.—M. MAISONNEUVE has made a statistical report of 11,644 cases of hernia, which were examined, during a period of six years, at the Central Bureau, Paris; he thus distributes them:—

Of 11,644 cases of abdominal hernia of every description, 8,790 were observed in males; 2,854 were observed in females.

Of 8,790 cases of hernia observed in males, 8,237 were inguinal hernia; 307 were crural hernia; 246 were umbilical hernia.

Of 2,854 cases observed in females, 1,112 were inguinal hernia; 639 were crural hernia; 560 were umbilical hernia; 543 were vaginal hernia.

Of 8,237 cases of inguinal hernia observed in males, 4,483 occurred on the right side; 3,738 occurred on the left side; 16 not determined.

Of 1,112 cases of inguinal hernia in females, 542 occurred on the right side; 564 occurred on the left side; 6 not determined.

Of 307 cases of crural hernia observed in males, 171 occurred on the right side; 125 occurred on the left side; 11 not determined.

Of 639 cases of crural hernia observed in females, 344 occurred on the right side; 255 occurred on the left side; 40 not determined.

From these figures, Mons. Maisonneuve deduces the following corollaries:—

First. Hernia in males are to hernia in females, as 3 to 1.

Secondly. In 100 herniæ found in males, 93 were inguinal, 4 were crural, 3 were umbilical; whilst, in 100 cases of hernia found in females, the proportion was 40 inguinal, 21 crural, 20 umbilical, 19 vaginal.

Thirdly. In men, inguinal hernia are met with as often on both sides as on one only, and in the latter case, those of the right side are to those of the left, in the proportion of 5 to 4.

But in women, inguinal hernia are met with on both sides, three times out of four, and those of the right side are to those of the left, in the proportion of 5.42 to 5.64.

Fourthly. In men, crural hernia are met with on one side only, three times out of four, and those of the right side are to those of the left, as 7 to 5; whilst in women, crural hernia are met with on one side only, 4 times out of 5; and those of the right side are to those of the left, as 7 to 5.

Under the head, vaginal hernia, are included all tumours of the vagina and uterus presenting externally, and requiring the use of the pessary, as cystoceles, rectoceles, and prolapsus of the vagina and uterus.

Under the head, umbilical hernia, are included hernia of the linea alba, and displacements referable to the neighbouring regions.—*Med. Times*, May 10, 1845, from *Gazette des Hôpitaux*.